



SAINT KENTIGERN

Piper

May 2016

Our
Preschool
turns 5
years old!





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www.saintkentigern.com



Saint Kentigern 2016 Production Season



From the Chairman of the Trust Board

I am pleased to report that 2016 has started well. All four schools are in good heart. Both the College and the Boys' School have their highest ever starting roll; the Girls' School roll has remained steady during a period of transition to Ms Juliet Small as the new Principal; and the Preschool remains at capacity.



We had an exceptional 'Open Day' season with record numbers of families at all campuses taking the opportunity to have a look at what a Saint Kentigern education has to offer their children. The campus tours that have followed on from the Open Days have also been well attended by record numbers. We are indeed grateful to our existing community for their support of Saint Kentigern,

and to prospective families for their interest in joining our community.

Early in Term 1, the hall at the Girls' School was damaged by a fire which started as a result of an electrical fault. Saint Kentigern has comprehensive insurance cover over all of its properties and our insurers have accepted responsibility for the cost of reinstatement. The scope of work has been agreed, contractors have been appointed, and Trust Board staff are actively monitoring progress. Having said that, the hall will be out of commission for a period of time causing some disruption to the Girls' School. While we will do everything in our power to minimise the disruption, we are grateful to the Girls' School community for your understanding and support.

The Preschool turned five at the start of this year! For much of that time the roll has been full and the Preschool has operated at full capacity of 50 youngsters with a number of families on the waiting list. We are thankful to Mrs Sue Nash and all her staff for the high quality service that they provide. Given the high interest in places, the Board is currently investigating the possibility of establishing a new larger Preschool facility on its Shore Road site to meet the demand.

At the College, the earthworks contract to prepare the building site for the extension to the Sports Centre has now been completed. We expect that construction of these much needed additional facilities will start in the second half of this year, and be fully available for use at the start of the 2018 College year. As I write, we are looking forward to the opening of the renovated Library/Learning Commons facility to be known as The Goodfellow Centre.

Head of College to retire next year



In recent weeks, Head of College, Mr Steve Cole has indicated his intention to retire from the teaching profession at the end of the second term next year, after leading the College through significant growth and change during his tenure. Mr Cole has had a long and rewarding career in teaching, with the last 26 years as a Head at schools in both New Zealand and the UK. The Trust Board is looking forward to appropriately recognising Mr Cole's contribution in due course but at this time, we sincerely thank him for the leadership, commitment and dedicated service he has given to Saint Kentigern over the past seven years.

Given Mr Cole's planned retirement and the announcement late last year of the pending retirement of Mr Eric Shiels, General Manager of the Trust Board, a move to a new organisational structure has been under rigorous review by the Trust Board over the course of the last six months.

In the past decade, we have seen significant expansion at Saint Kentigern with the steady growth of student numbers at the College and Boys' School, along with the introduction of a Girls' School and Preschool five years ago. The Trust is currently the largest Independent Schools' group in New Zealand and one of the largest in Australasia. Across three campuses, we now provide for 2740 students supported by more than 400 academic and administration staff, making this a significant and most successful educational enterprise.

Introducing a new organisational structure

In order to meet the needs of this continued growth, the Trust Board has concluded that this is the right time to restructure. Discussion is currently underway to create a new role, the Head of Saint Kentigern; a position responsible for providing oversight for the whole organisation and implementation of the Board's vision for all four Saint Kentigern schools across all three campuses. This appointment will be supported by another new role, that of Chief Operating Officer.

The current positions of Head of College and General Manager of the Trust Board will be disestablished in favour of these new roles that better reflect our future needs.

Under the new structure, the current Heads of Senior and Middle Schools at the College will be renamed, Principal Middle College and Principal Senior College with their roles moving towards a full responsibility Head position. They, along with the Principals of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, will report to the new Head of Saint Kentigern. The Trust Board recognises the need to keep close to all of its schools and, therefore, the new Head of Saint Kentigern, along with the four Principals, will all attend Trust Board meetings where they will provide their reports and plans for discussion.

In restructuring at the College, the House system is also under review with the intention to increase the current four Houses to six, adding another two Heads of House at both Middle and Senior College level, therefore, greatly reducing the ratio of students to each Head of House to further strengthen our pastoral care. More information about this will follow in the next issue of Piper.

The Trust Board and Senior Leadership Team are enthusiastic about the new structure in meeting the needs of all our schools and supporting continued excellence in education at Saint Kentigern. We will continue to keep you informed of our progress as the move towards this new structure gets underway.

Fides Servanda Est

Dr Bruce Goodfellow

Chairman of Saint Kentigern Trust Board

